

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of GermanyTOPIC V-2 weapons plant in Bleicherode

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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1. The situation in 1945/1946

All the undestroyed V-2 weapons plants in the Soviet Zone of Germany were taken over by the Soviets in 1945 and dismantled on a large scale. Such plants were concentrated in the area of Bleicherode where the outstanding physicists and technicians in the field of rocket propulsion had been working until the German surrender.

The central Soviet agency in charge of all the pertinent work was:

a. Technical Bureau No 11 in Karlshorst

(1) Administration office on Mueggelseedamm in Berlin-Friedrichshagen (corner of Loecknitzstrasse).

personnel:

Col Pobedanostsev
Lt Col Polamid

(2) German bureau and guest house on Uhlenhorstweg in Berlin-Klein-Tschernow. Its chief was German engineer Thiele.

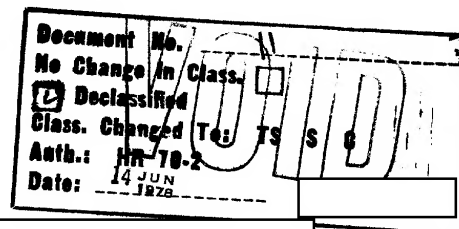
b. "Geratetwerk" (apparatus plant) Sondershausen

This plant was opened in 1947 after the V-2 specialists left.

Department "Test Stand-Brenngrube"

Chief: Lehestin

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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engineers: Zerschinsky (or Zecynski)
Jaffke

c. V-2 Weapons Plant in Klein-Podungen

manager: Jasper

d. Montania Plant in Nordhausen (manufacture of combustion chambers)

personnel:

Engineer Leifeld
Engineer Mieth
Engineer Niekog (or Nieltock)

e. Bleicherode Plant

(1) Raabe Institute (rocket propulsion)

(2) Groettrup Institute

(3) Observatory-Astronomical Institute Jena, possibly a department of Greifswald University.

(4) Soviet agency

Chief: General Gaidukov

(a) Department Gehrman (German)

Soviet supervision:

Major Chertok
Capt Mikhailov

German chief:

Director Gehrman

High-Frequency Department:

Dr. Faulstick and Dr. Moser

Design Bureau:

Graduate engineer Stander
Surveying Department
Cinetheodelite Department:

Dr. Ritter
Engineer Loebel
Max Pehle
F. Ratheiss

Construction of the FMB (Fahrbare meteorologische Station - mobile Meteorological Station); code name for mobile rocket launching site, (V-accessories and the various special cars needed for the launching of guided missiles, etc).

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Training Department:

Training in the launching of v-2 missiles

Fritz Viebach) launching instructors
 Victor Stahl)

(b) Department Groettrup

Soviet supervision:

Col Korolyov, Tyulin, Lavrov, Grechanin
 Lt Col Voskresenski

German management:

Graduate engineer Groettrup
 Director Friedel

Ballistic Department:

Dr. Zeyse (or Zeise)
 Dr. Hoch
 Dr. Weidhardt

Meteorological Department:

Dr. Engelmann

High Frequency Department:

Dr. Coermann

f. of the mentioned persons the following were deported
 to Soviet Russia in October and November 1946:

Helmut Groettrup	Peenemuende Rocket Test Station
Dr. Coermann	Physicist, presumably a high-frequency specialist, Peenemuende
Dr. Mag. Zeyse	German Aeronautical Institute in Berlin-Adlershof
Dr. Schier and wife)	
Dr. Magda Schier, doctor)	
Dr. Ahlbrink)	Mathematicians, experts in the
Dr. Hoch)	field of ballistics and other
Dr. Magnus)	specialists
Dr. Weidhardt)	
Dr. Stolpe)	
Dr. Mathes)	Chemist
Engineer Fleischer)	Specialist in the field of mixing apparatus

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Dr. Faulstich) High-frequency specialists
 Dr. Moser)

Graduate engineer Robby
 Graduate engineer Luenich

Graduate engineer Zerschinsky)
 (or Zecynski)) Test stand specialists
 Graduate engineer Jaffke)

Ursula Schaefer Secretary to Dr. Coermann

Fritz Viebach Launching specialist for V-2
 missiles, rocket test station
 Peenemuende

Max Pehle Surveying engineer) Rocket
 Fritz Matheis Cinetheodelithe spe-) Test station
 cialist) Peenemuende

Dr. Borkmann in charge of static calculations
 at the German Aeronautical Insti-
 tute in Adlershof.

Siegfried Bergemann

Viktor Stahl probably a specialist in the
 field of rocket launching,
 formerly in Peenemuende.

Engineer Leifeld Test engineer

Engineer Gehrmann

Engineer Mieth)
 Engineer Niekog) Designers specialists in the field of
 (or Nieltock)) combustion chambers

g. Graduate engineer Jtender, formerly director of the
 Junkers Aircraft Engine plant, was not deported since he
 was under arrest at the time when the Junkers engineers
 left for the Soviet Union. After he was released from
 jail he was ill for several months.

2. The Situation after 1947

a. After the mentioned specialists had left for the Soviet
 Union the plants listed in section 1 were allegedly to con-
 tinue operations. However, their dismantling was unexpectedly
 ordered in January 1947. All the equipment was dismantled and
 all the files and records shipped away.

The Soviet agency and some of the remaining specialists,
 including director Friedel, were transferred to the

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Gerastewerk in Sondershausen. In this plant the apparatus needed by the scientists deported to the Soviet Union were built. A correspondence was maintained between the plant and Dr. Coermann who had some of his apparatus built in the plant.

(1) Soviet supervision in Sondershausen:

Technical manager: Grenetski
General manager: Kapmann

The management of this plant was directly responsible to the Technical Bureau in Karlshorst (Chertok, Korolyev, Podenanskis, Melamid had returned to Moscow).

(2) German management in Sondershausen:

Technical management: Engineer Drope
Engineer Schaefer
Engineer Caspary
Engineer Suchan and others

Business management: Dr. Friedel.

b. Engineers Caspary and Suchan (spelling possibly not quite correct) were said to be arrested for political reasons. They were not seen again.

Engineer Schaefer and his dependents fled to the West.

c. Dr. Friedel and engineer Drope run a bureau of the IKA, presumably the central office, at 2 Barbarastrasse, in Halle on the Saale River. Dr. Friedel reportedly is the only man to have a complete list of the personnel of the "Zentralwerke Bleicherode". All other records were destroyed in 1947.

d. It is rumored that Groettrup is no longer alive.

Engineer Zerschinsky is said to be held under arrest in the Soviet Union for political reasons.

Groettrup first lived in Moscow, presumably in the "Bolshevo Settlement." His correspondence with Dr. Friedel suddenly stopped. Jasper, the manager of the Klein-Bodungen Plant, indicated the intention of committing suicide.

e. The group of Bleicherode specialists was split up in the Soviet Union. After being given a great reception in Moscow they were distributed to the individual institutes. Some remained in Moscow. Dr. Karl Borkmann for instance, is in Moscow-Monino, Building No 1 of the Sanatorium. Dr. Coermann's address is: Moscow-Bolshevo, New Settlement, House No 4. Viebach's and Dr. Schlier's address is: Ostashkov, Kalinin Oblast, post office box No 1.

f. The majority of the scientists concerned are said to stay in Ostashkov. Some of them who still maintain a correspondence with friends in the Soviet Zone of Germany mentioned this locality as their place of residence. They live there, together

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with their families, in a large German settlement on an island in Lake Seliger.

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☐ comment:

a. The report again describes the by now well-known development of the v-weapons plants in the area of Nordhausen up to January 1947.

b. The locations of the German specialists listed in para 2 are confirmed by letters.

c. Para 2 does not furnish any new information. However, it makes it improbable that any further development work in the field of v-weapons is being done in the remaining plants. This assumption is supported by the more recent reports on this subject.

d. The rumors concerning Dr. Goettrup's death were mentioned in two previous reports.

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